

STATEMENT OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THANKSGIVING RELIEF PLANS,  
NOVEMBER 25, 1947.

In the strains and uncertainties of 1947, we should approach Thanksgiving Day with more of a sense of gratitude and responsibility than we have held for many years in the past.

Our nation lies undevastated. Our fields have produced abundantly. Our people, now as never before, live better than any others in the world. Although we are suffering from the tremendous increase in cost-of-living, we do not appreciate to the full extent how fortunate we still are as compared to the people of other nations. The blessings of a free people are ours.

For these we give our thanks. But our fortunate position carries with it the Christian obligation to help with our substance those who cannot help themselves. While we Americans select our foods from well-stocked grocery stores, millions in Europe and Asia would be happy for the privilege of scavenging our garbage pails. The people grapple face-to-face with the ultimate reality of hunger. Where the next meal may come from many of them do not know. Often it does not come.

Many church and private-relief organizations have been sending food abroad regularly. The persons who contribute the money for the food packages are practicing the high ideals of Christianity. Their organizations will continue their splendid work. But as Thanksgiving approaches, we should all make special efforts to help them.

Three such organizations in particular - - the American Silent Guest Committee, the World Church Service, and the National Catholic Welfare Conference - - are asking the help of South Carolinians at Thanksgiving.

The American Silent Guest Committee asks that families send a check or money order to the American Silent Guest Committee, Inc., Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, Massachusetts for the amount of money they would spend for the Thanksgiving dinner of one guest. It will be spent for CARE food packages to Europe.



The World Church Service asks that South Carolinians give money, food, and clothing of a value equal to or better than their Thanksgiving feasts to their own churches for relief distribution abroad.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference asks us to donate as much canned foods as possible to our churches, regardless of our denominations. The cans will be distributed in Europe and the Far East.

As Governor and as a private citizen, I give my whole-hearted endorsement to these plans whereby we may share our Thanksgiving.

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